

REMARKS

Claims 1-73 were pending prior to entry of present amendment. Claims 51-73 were previously withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected invention. Claims 1-3, 10-15, 19-22, 25, 27-28, 30-31, 34-35, 38, 42, and 47-48 have been amended and new claims 74-115 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-50 and 74-115 are currently under consideration. Applicants have amended claims for clarity. Support for new claims can be found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed. Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the present amendment.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment with additions underlined and deletions bracketed. The attached pages are captioned **"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."**

Rejection of claims under Section 112, first paragraph

In the Advisory Action mailed August 8, 2001, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 1-50 under Section 112, first paragraph, stating that Applicants' arguments were based upon evidence set forth in the IDS which was not considered. The Examiner stated that absent such evidence the rejection of claims was maintained. Applicants are submitting the present amendment concurrent with a Request for Continued Examination and respectfully request that the Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 as filed on July 9, 2001, as well as the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, be considered and entered.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statements submitted February 16, 2001, and July 9, 2001

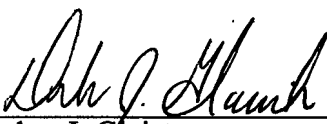
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial the form PTO-1449 submitted February 16, 2001 and July 9, 2001 and return to Applicants.

CONCLUSION

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 212302000720. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 8, 2001

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